

MEMORANDUM

TO: Modeling Task Force Members

FROM: Mike Ainsworth

SUBJECT: Modeling Task Force Meeting Summary – September 24, 2003

MODELING TASK FORCE MEETING

September 24, 2003 - Wednesday
9:30 A.M. - 11:30 A.M.

Southern California
Association of Governments
818 W. 7th Street, 12th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90017
Room – Riverside A

Attendees

Chaushie Chu	Tess Sicat
Luke Cheng	Keith Killough
Gerry Bare	Steve Smith
Henning Eichler	Ramakrishna Tadi
Arun Kuppam	Ron Taira
Robert Lund	Duyet Do
Mike Ainsworth	Firooz Hamedani
Deng Bang Lee	Tim Byrne
Stewart Chesler	Viggen Davidian
Taimour Tanavoli	Fironzeh Nourzad
Maren Outwater	Fred Zohrehvand
Gene Hong	Tom Carranza
Sandra Balmir	Jack Tsao
R. Mike Labudzki	Jeff Boberg
Tony Van Haagen	Dale Iwai
Armen Hovanessian	Bangal Doumbia
Robert Farley	Ping Wang

DRAFT MEETING SUMMARY

1.0 Call to Order

2.0 Public Comment Period – No Comments

3.0 Introductions

4.0 Review and Approve Previous Meeting Summary – Approved

5.0 Information Items:

5.1 Regional Model Improvement Program – Maren Outwater (Cambridge Systematics) provided an overview of the Regional Model Improvement Program. The major work tasks include upgrading the following model components: auto ownership model, trip generation, external trips, mode choice, and trip assignment. The main consideration for the auto ownership model is the model structure and the data used in model estimation. The objective of the generation model task is as follows: 1) identify current weaknesses, 2) improve the model's functionality, 3) determine the desired interface and program features, and 4) recode the existing program with the new model input data. The primary purpose of the external trip model element is to develop a new approach based on the new Regional Cordon Survey. Tasks involved with the mode choice model update include: 1) re-estimation of the mode choice model for all trip types, 2) test alternative model structures, and 3) introduce new travel modes – toll/non-toll and metro-link. The major emphasis with trip assignment is to test/adopt alternative volume/delay functions. The final work tasks include developing the Final Report and reporting the study findings to the Peer Review Panel and the Modeling Task Force.

5.2 FY 2003 – 2004 Model Improvement Activities – The purpose of this item was to provide the group an update of SCAG's and the subregional modeling agencies' model improvement activities for FY 03-04. This item was originally discussed at the September Modeling Task Force Meeting. Because of time constraints this item was carried over to a future Meeting.

5.3 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Modeling Scenarios – Naresh Amatya provided an update on the development of the RTP and the RTP Modeling Scenarios. Five growth scenarios have been advanced, three of which are technically based and two that are policy based. The policy-based forecasts include one scenario that intensifies growth in the already developed areas (Pilot 1) and the other that spreads growth to outlying areas (Pilot 2). The performance of the various alternatives have been measured and compared

using the performance measures. Pilut 1 and 2 perform better than the others by incorporating growth visioning and tailored transportation improvements. The next step is to take the best elements from both Pilut scenarios to create a Growth Vision Alternative. The RTP/EIR adoption schedule is as follows: October 2, 2003 – release of the Draft RTP, December 4, 2003 – release of Draft EIR, and April 1, 2003 – adoption of RTP and EIR.

- 5.4 Year 2003 Screenline Count Program – Luke Cheng and Dale Iwai provided an overview of the Year 2003 Screenline Count Program. The purpose of the program is to collect traffic data for the Year 2003 Model Validation and to develop an ongoing traffic count program. The kick-off meeting with the consultant (Myer Mohaddes) was held September 18th. A Draft Work Plan should be finalized by the end of the month.
- 5.5 Regional Airport Model – Mike Ainsworth provided a brief project overview and reviewed the project's status. SCAG has contracted with SH&E to develop an Airport Demand Model for the SCAG Region. The goal of this effort is to develop a comprehensive airport model capable of forecasting air passenger travel demand and airport utilization. Given the size and scope of this effort, the project will be completed using a phased approach. SH&E recently completed Phase 1a of the project and delivered the following products: 1) Literature Review Report, 2) Model Design Report, and 3) Summary of Existing Airport Surveys. The Consultant is currently working to develop the trip generation component (Phase 1b) which will be delivered by the end of this month. SCAG Staff recently contacted Kern County Airports and the San Diego County Regional Airport Authority (SDCRAA) to determine their level of interest in joining the model development project. Both Kern County Airports and the San Diego County Regional Airport Authority are interested in joining the modeling effort. SCAG is currently working with the San Diego County Regional Airport Authority and Kern County Airports to develop MOUs with both agencies.
- 5.6 Year 2000 Post Census Travel Survey – Johanna Zmud (NuStats) provided a status and presented the results of the Year 2000 Travel Survey. Ms. Zmud discussed the methodology and survey results for the three aspects of the Survey: 1) main survey (telephone/mailback), 2) choice intercept survey, and 3) the GPS survey. The following provides an overview of the main surveys response: 16,939 – household surveys, 40,357 - person records, 30,274 - vehicle records, 144,802 - unlinked records, 133,045 - linked records, and 100,322 - geo-coded locations. The choice sample includes 5,927 mode users. The GPS sample included 2,810 vehicle trips. Travel mode share results show the following: 61% - vehicle driver, 23% - vehicle passenger, 11% - walk, 2% - transit, 2% - school bus, 1% - bike.

5.7 Regional Cordon Survey Status – Mike Ainsworth provided a brief update on the Cordon Survey. SCAG staff is working with the Consultant to closeout the project. Mike Ainsworth will provide a complete status report at November's Meeting.

6.0 Open Discussion and Other Business – None

7.0 Schedule and Agenda for Next Meeting – The next meeting is scheduled for January 28, 2004.

8.0 Adjournment